

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 1474, ACTION SECSTATE 77 APR:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN NEW YORK 01474

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TAGS: EGEN, UN
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (OVERVIEW MECHANISM):
DISCUSSION WITH PAKISTANIS.

1. AMBASSADOR WELLS AND RIEMER MET WITH AKRAM OF FOREIGN
MINISTRY AND QUADRAD DIN OF PAKISTAN MISSION ON APRIL 13
TO DISCUSS MAY MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (THE
ACRONYM FOR WHICH HAS NOW SURFACED - "COW"). DISCUSSIONS
CENTERED ON AGENDA ITEM 2. THE PAKISTANIS MADE THE
FOLLOWING POINTS:

- A. PARTICIPATION. AKRAM REFERRED TO G-77 DISCUSSION
THAT DELEGATIONS WOULD URGE THEIR CAPITALS TO SEND HIGH
LEVEL REPRESENTATIONS TO MAY MEETING (WHILE THEORETICALLY
"MINISTERIAL", A MORE REALISTIC GOAL WAS ONE LEVEL LESS.)
HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT FOR PAKISTAN AND MANY OTHER
G-77 MEMBERS, THE FINAL DECISION ON PARTICIPATION WOULD
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ALSO BE BASED ON SOME INDICATION OF WHAT WAS LIKELY TO BE
ACCOMPLISHED. HENCE, THERE WAS A NEED FOR AN EARLY
PRELIMINARY EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON POSSIBLE RESULTS OF
MEETING.

- B. PRELIMINARY EXCHANGES OF VIEWS. PAKISTANIS BEGAN
BY NOTING THAT THEY SAW ALL AGENDAS SUBMITTED AS SIMPLY

"INDICATIVE", OF COUNTRIES' INTERESTS. THE REAL PROGRAM OF WORK SHOULD GROW OUT OF THE PROPOSALS DELEGATIONS WILL MAKE, AND THE CONCLUSIONS PARTICIPANTS WISH TO REACH. THEY SUGGESTED THAT WE BEGIN INFORMAL, DISCUSSIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE - WITH A VERY LIMITED NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS - TO DETERMINE IN WHICH AREAS THESE PROPOSALS AND EVENTUAL CONCLUSIONS COULD BE. THESE DISCUSSIONS COULD GO ON IN PARALLEL WITH G-77 PREPARATIONS. AMBASSADOR WELLS AGREED WE MIGHT BEGIN SUCH DISCUSSIONS ON THE 20TH OR 21ST, BUT CAUTIONED AGAINST TRYING TO TIE "MINISTERS" DOWN. PAKISTANIS NOTED THE PROPOSED EXCHANGE WOULD NOT COMMIT PARTICIPANTS.

- C. SUBJECT MATTER. IN A VERY BROAD DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT MATTER, WELLS AND RIEMER EXPRESSED U.S. HESITANCY AT DISCUSSING MONETARY AFFAIRS AND SOME OF G-77 SUB-ITEMS ON TRADE, SUCH AS INDEXATION. PAKISTANIS BELIEVED SUCH QUESTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED; THEY URGED US TO REFER BACK TO RESOLUTION OF SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION, WHICH THEY SUGGESTED COULD BE A STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSIONS AND A MODEL OF THE KIND OF DECISIONS WHICH COULD BE TAKEN. (THEY NOTED THIS HAD PROVIDED FOR STUDY OF INDEXATION AND OTHER SCHEMES). RELATIVE TO ODA, THEY SUGGESTED THAT CIEC DECISIONS COULD BE STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSION.

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2. OTHER POINTS COVERED WERE:

- A. AGENDA ITEM ONE. G-77 PAPER (UNFINISHED AS OF COB APRIL 14 WOULD BE ABOUT 12-17 PAGES, IN LENGTH. WE UNDERSTAND MATERIAL WILL CONTAIN NO NEW THINKING.

- B. AGENDA ITEMS THREE AND FOUR. PAKISTANIS NOTED THAT G-77 HAD AGREED THAT FAILURE OF UNIDO PLENIPOTENTIARIES CONFERENCE SHOULD BE REPORTED (DR. KHANE HAD INSISTED ON COMING TO GIVE REPORT), BUT NOT DISCUSSED AT LENGTH AT MAY MEETING. ULTIMATELY, THEY BELIEVED AGREEMENTS ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED DURING 33RD GA, WITH A BRIEF PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE TO FOLLOW TO ESTABLISH FINAL TEXT. ON DEBT, PAKISTANIS NOTED THAT FOLLOW-UP STUDIES HAD BEEN PROVIDED FOR AT TDB MINISTERIAL ONLY ON QUESTION OF FEATURES. WITHOUT GIVING DETAILS, THEY SUGGESTED SOME SORT OF FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO TERMS READJUSTMENT AS WELL.

3. COMMENT: MISSION BELIEVES THAT APPROACH SUGGESTED BY PAKISTANIS FOR PREPARATION OF MAY OVERVIEW SESSION HAS CONSIDERABLE MERIT. APPROACHING AGENDA FROM VIEW OF

EXPECTED OUTCOME SEEMS FAR MORE PRACTICAL THAN AN ABSTRACT EXERCISE IN ATTEMPTING TO COMBINE VARIOUS PROPOSALS MADE, OR, FROM STANDPOINT U.S. PREPARATIONS, AN EFFORT TO PREPARE POSITIONS ON EVERY CONCEIVABLE ISSUE. SINCE WORK ON A USG POSITION ON OUTCOME HAS ALREADY BEGUN, MISSION SUGGESTS THIS BE GIVEN FIRST PRIORITY, AND THAT AS MUCH GUIDANCE AS POSSIBLE BE PROVIDED MISSION FOR MEETING AT END OF THIS WEEK. (WE ALSO NOTE THAT WHATEVER GROUP PAKISTANS PUT TOGETHER - AND WE WOULD LEAVE ITS COMPOSITION ENTIRELY TO THEM - MIGHT PROVIDE A NUCLEUS FOR DISCUSSIONS DURING MAY SESSION.) LEONARD UNQUOTE.
CHRISTOPHER

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